

**Riverside General Plan Program
Arts Subcommittee**

Meeting #4 - Minutes

**Monday, January 26, 2004
Municipal Museum
3580 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside**

On Monday, January 26, 2004, the Riverside General Plan Arts Subcommittee held its fourth and final meeting. The meeting was led by City Planning Department staff and The Arroyo Group (members of the CBA consultant team). The following people were in attendance:

Arts Subcommittee Members and Interested Parties:

David Willmon
Kathy Wright
Tom Powell
Bob Stein
Mark Schooley
Kathie Dillon
Charles Bibbs
Steve Kester
Colleen J. McBride
Vince Moses
Sperry MacNaughton
Susan Parker
Alida Torres
Lis Zuloaga

City Planning Staff:

Ken Gutierrez
Craig Aaron
Diane Jenkins
Robert Laag

The Arroyo Group:

Larry Morrison
Jean D'Agostino

Guest Speakers:

Walter Jansen
Lalit Acharya

The minutes of the September 15, 2003 Arts Subcommittee meeting were approved with no changes. The Subcommittee Members were asked to review the roster of names on the

committee to confirm correct spelling and professional credentials for inclusion in the acknowledgements section of the Draft General Plan. Any corrections will be forwarded to Diane Jenkins.

The main discussion for this meeting was to receive input from the Subcommittee on the Draft Arts & Culture Element of the General Plan. Following are the general comments received for each section of the Element (not including minor grammatical edits):

Introduction (pages AC-1 through AC-2):

- Bring in more discussion about attracting world class entertainers, performances and artists to Riverside – not just what Riverside already has, but stress the need to attract more from outside.

Our Rich Community Resources (pages AC-3 through AC-7):

- Add more words like “thriving” and “dynamic”. The Element needs to have a proactive, dynamic tone.
- State the list of examples on page AC-3 is only a sampling up front, not after the list. Add Fox Theater and Raincross Chorale to the list. Add some more diverse programs and groups to the list so that we don’t incorrectly portray Riverside as all European Heritage.
- Under the sub-section on Downtown Riverside, add more discussion about the Municipal Auditorium since it is such an important performance venue.
- Also in this sub-section, mention the Riverside Art Walk.
- Remove specific references, such as grant money for UCR, to make the document more timeless.

The Arts in Education (pages AC-8 through AC-10):

- Under the K-12 sub-section, rephrase the first sentence to start out more positively, yet keep in the reference to budget challenges.
- Also in this sub-section, add a sentence that describes that there is currently no formal arts curriculum that is consistently implemented through the elementary schools, and there needs to be one. Middle and high schools are more likely to have an array of formalized curricular offerings.
- Under the RSA sub-section, stress the uniqueness of the program, including the partnerships involved and that it is secondary school through college.
- Add a policy regarding funding from new sources in the community since the State is facing such severe budget cuts in education.

Art and Culture in Our Neighborhoods (pages AC-11 through AC-13):

- Expand this section to include language about using art as a proactive means of addressing neighborhood problems – crime prevention, etc.
- Add a discussion about youth services.
- Make Cultural Villages its own section (this is discussed in more detail below under the Cultural Villages discussion and presentation).

Arts, Culture and the Economy (pages AC-14 through AC-20):

- Add the Downtown Art Walk to the economy section. Add a policy about promoting the Art Walk with marketing, signage, and cross promotion through partnering with businesses, such as restaurants.
- Describe that the Riverside Cultural Trust is in the forefront of establishing the Downtown Arts and Culture District on page AC-15.
- Remove the words “the greatest possible” from policy AC-3.24.

Because it appeared additional time was needed to review the Element, the Arts Subcommittee was given a deadline of February 6, 2004 to provide additional comments and edits. All comments will be directed to Diane Jenkins.

Presentation and Discussion on Global Cultural Villages:

The remainder of the meeting focused on a presentation, and subsequent discussion, by Walter Jansen and Lalit Acharya on the concept of a Global Cultural Village, or one or more ethnic cultural villages in Riverside. The PowerPoint presentation is attached. This concept was included in the Arts and Culture Element under the Neighborhoods section. There was some discussion about moving this sub-section to the Economy section of the Element, but then the Subcommittee decided the topic was important and exciting enough to warrant its own section within the Element. This section will be expanded and more policies included.

Next Steps:

The Arts Subcommittee should email, mail or fax all additional comments on the Arts and Culture Element to Diane Jenkins at dijenkins@ci.riverside.ca.us no later than Friday, February 6, 2004 so they can be considered for inclusion in the Draft General Plan. The Draft General Plan will be available for public review in the spring. Public hearings are planned for the fall.